SUBJECT No. 164.

Permission to inspect timber in State Forests.

Mr. Dasappa, Arsikere Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Persons desirous of obtaining timber from State Forests may first be permitted to inspect such timber and then obtain license therefor, as the existing rules do not contain any such provision.

Reply of Government.—There is no sort of objection to such inspection.

SUBJECT No. 165.

License for removing timber.

1. Messrs. Siddegowda, Mudgere Taluk; B. Sitaramiah, Chikmagalur Taluk; and T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association.
2. Messrs. Subramanya Bhatta and H. Subbaraya, Koppa Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) Formerly when free licenses were issued by the taluk authorities for the transport of timber from the coffee estates and other lands for private use by using private seals, they were obtained promptly and in time. The present rule, under which licenses are issued either by the Range Officer or the District Forest Officer after inspection and impressing the Government seal, entails considerable delay and the people are thereby put to great inconvenience and loss. It is therefore prayed that either the old system of granting licenses by the taluk authorities may be revived or stringent orders passed for the grant of licenses within one month or six weeks from the date of application.

(2) Timber, etc., removed by ryots on licenses is subjected to double inspection, on one side by the shekdars and on the other by minor forest officials. It may be ordered that licenses issued by the Amildars under ryots' privileges rules should be checked by revenue officials only and licenses issued by the Forest Department by officials of that department.

Reply of Government.—(1) Delays in particular cases may be brought to notice for needful action being taken. Further, the question of fixing a time, say six weeks, within which the license should be granted will be considered.

(2) The question of dispensing with the inspection by revenue officials will also be considered.

SUBJECT No. 166.

Free grant of large bamboos to ryots in the malnad.

Mr. Bhavani Rao, Shimoga District Board.

Summary of discussion.—(a) The concession now granted tentatively for two years may be made permanent, as the bamboos are required only for the construction of houses and hedging sugarcane fields and are not removed for any other purpose by the ryots.

(b) It is ordered that bamboos may be taken away free for a period of two years as it is destroyed by "katte" disease. As the disease still exists and is destroying bamboos, the concession of their free removal may be extended to another five years.

Reply of Government.—(a) & (b) The term will, for the present, be extended by one year in places where such extension is necessary.